MYSORE PROVINCE,

JANUARY, 1876.

PROCEEDINGS

OF

THE HON'BLE R. A. DALYELL, M. C. S.,

OFFG. CHIEF COMMISSIONER.

PART I—A, IN EXTENSO.

JUDICIAL.—*Nil.*
REV. AG. & COM.
Do. FORESTS.
FINANCIAL.
GENERAL.
EDUCATIONAL.—*Nil.*
MILITARY.—*Nil.*

PART II—B, IN ABSTRACT.

JUDICIAL.
REV. AG. & COM.
Do. FORESTS.
FINANCIAL.
GENERAL.
EDUCATIONAL.—*Nil.*
MILITARY.

BANGALORE:

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1876.

PART I.

DEPT. OF REVENUE. AGRICULTURE & COMMERCE.

A.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF MYSORE FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 1876.

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Proceedings of the Chief Commissioner of Mysore, Department of Revenue, Agriculture and Commerce, 8th January 1876.

From the Commissioner of the Nagar Division, To the Offg. Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore, General Department, No. 525—Rev. 108, dated 7th December 1875.

I have the honor to submit for the Chief Commissioner's information that at the Survey settlement of the Davangere Taluk no site was allowed for a deserted village called "Rangavanhalli" on account of its being uninhabited at the time.

2. Since then houses have been built on Survey numbers under the circumstances mentioned in the enclosed copy of a letter No. 394, dated 7th August 1875, from the Deputy Commissioner, who now proposes that the marginally noted pieces of land be set apart as the site.

	Acres	G.
Survey No 21, assessed at 8 annas.	1	27
Portion of Survey No. 1, 38 acres and 37 guntas, assessed at Rs. 12.	4	0
assessed at 1—12—0.	5	27

3. I personally inspected the spot and found that if an old well situated in Survey No. 5 is restored, a small village will no doubt establish itself and bring the surrounding land into cultivation which will be an advantage in an otherwise thinly peopled part of the taluk.

4. Under these circumstances I request that sanction may be obtained for the assignment of the site in question.

From the Offg. Deputy Commissioner of the Chitaldroog District, To the Commissioner of the Nagar Division, No. 394, dated 7th August 1875.

I have the honor to bring to your notice the following circumstances reported by the Amildar of Davangere.

The village of Rangavanhalli in the Anagod Sammat having been uninhabited at the time of Survey operations, no village site was set apart for building purposes; the village map shews only assessed and unassessed numbers.

About 4 years ago, when Charkpalli Ramaiya was the Amildar, certain ryots cultivating the lands of that village applied to him and got permission to build houses on the Survey numbers noted in the margin which are assessed waste. The number of houses now standing is six, but there is nothing on record to shew under what circumstances or authority sanction was accorded to the said individuals by the above Amildar; this fact has been deposed to by the Shanbhog.

No. 1, measuring 38 acres and 37 guntas assessed at Rs. 12.
No. 21, measuring 1 acre and 27 guntas assessed at 8 annas.

The waste numbers in question are shewn annually in the Hulbanni Patrik No. 5, according to form, although the fact of there being houses built on them came to light only lately. The Amildar now recommends that the said two numbers be allotted for building purposes, the assessment being remitted as more houses are likely to be built, and the want of a village site is very much felt.

The vernacular correspondence on the subject is herewith submitted for perusal and return.

No. 7571—Rev. 41, dated Bangalore, 8th January 1876.

Order thereon.—Under the circumstances represented in the foregoing letter, the Offg. Chief Commissioner directs that the Survey numbers noted in the margin in the village of Rangavanhalli in the Davangere Taluk be appropriated for building purposes and entered in the accounts as the village site. The necessary corrections will be made in the Survey accounts.

	Acres.	G.
Survey No. 21, assessed at 8 Annas	1	27
Portion of Survey No. 1, 38 acres and 37 guntas, assessed at Rs. 12.	4	0
Total Extent...	5	27
Total Assessment Rs.	1	12

2. The Amildar had no authority to grant land, whether assessed or unassessed, for building purposes.

T. CLARKE,
Offg. Secretary.

Proceedings of the Chief Commissioner of Mysore, Department of Revenue, Agriculture and Commerce, 20th January 1876.

From the Commissioner, Ashtagram Division, To the Offg. Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore, Genl. Department No. 788—Rev. 106, dated Mysore, 10th January 1876.

I have the honor to forward for submission to the Chief Commissioner, the enclosed copies of letters* from the Deputy Commissioner, Mysore District, on the condition of the crops generally throughout the District consequent on the failure of rain, and bringing to notice the distress already felt in the Mandya Taluk in part of which no crop has been reaped by the ryots.

*No. 974, dated 14th September 1875.
No. 1390, dated 17th December 1875.
No. 1394, dated 20th December 1875.
No. 1434, dated 4th January 1876.

Statement shewing state of crops in the Taluks of Mysore District received with docket No. 1452, dated 8th January 1876.

2. It will be seen that in his letter No. 974, dated 14th September 1875, the Deputy Commissioner reported that the jola crop in this taluk proved an entire failure as it came into ear only in a few fields and the stalks withered away, while the dod-ragi and haraka crops were then very backward and in many places withering for want of seasonable rain. The tanks were dry, cultivation stopped, and the prospects very discouraging.

3. In continuation of this he reported in No. 1390 of the 17th ultimo the complete failure of the jola crop in the Mandya, Chamarajnagar and Mysore Taluks as well as in portions of other taluks, and that the ragi crop generally, which was of the most wretched description, would probably not yield, even in the most favored localities, one half of the usual return.

With the exception of two of the villages, the crop failed entirely in four Hoblis (Dud, Basral, Mattikere, Kotati) and partially in two more (Kasba and Yeliyur) of the Mandya Taluk and in the Arsinkere Hobli of the Malvalli Taluk, and there was little prospect of any return from gram or ballar.

4. The Deputy Commissioner on visiting the worst parts of the taluk found no actual destitution but great depression among the people, many of whom were leaving to work as coolies on the coffee plantations in Wynaad, and he received many applications for remission of the assessment for the year.

5. From information since received I understand that the distress is increasing and is due in great measure to there being almost no reserve stocks of food-grains to fall back upon. There are comparatively few large holders in the taluk, and the cereals grown in an ordinary year are only sufficient for supplying the local market at Mandya and for the support of the agricultural population who consume what is produced and pay their kandayam in a great measure by the sale of the "Sal pairu" or drill crops such as dhal, ballar, thil, &c., taken off to Mysore and Ganjam, by the sale of sheep, wool and cotton-thread or from the wages brought back by those who go to work on the coffee plantations, the number of whom has been estimated at about 2,000 men. Last year a good deal of the revenue was paid from the money expended by the Irrigation Department on the tank repairs which amounted to Rs. 15,000.

6. A failure of the grain crop therefore will necessitate the purchase of grain from other places, and by failure of the "Sal pairu" many of the ryots will be put to straits for money to pay the assessment which no doubt is the cause of the increased emigration to the coffee estates. But it is also to be feared that this source of income will be less advantageous than usual during 1876 owing to a greater influx of coolies and to the increased cost of living in Wynaad, in consequence of the dearness of ragi, all of which is imported from Mysore.

Wages have already fallen, and as ragi is selling at Gudalur at 8 and 9 seers for a rupee, the Amildar of Chamrajnagar expects that large bodies of ryots will return to their homes and probably the same result will follow in Mandya.

7. Under these circumstances it is necessary to afford timely relief as far as can be done without seriously affecting the revenue, and I would recommend that the same measures be adopted in the Mysore District as have been sanctioned in others affected by the failure of the usual rains, with regard to the collection of the land revenue by extending the khists to June and increasing the number to 8. The Amildar of Mandya has in fact reported that difficulty has been found in collecting the khists for December.

8. The Deputy Commissioner is not in favor of this proposal which he thinks will do little good, but other officials to whom I have referred consider that a great deal of relief will be given in many cases, and on this account I recommend it, leaving it open to the Deputy Commissioner to apply the measure only to such taluks or parts of taluks as are specially affected.

9. In addition to this the Government might forego the levy of process fees and interest which under the Survey Rules the Deputy Commissioner is empowered to do in whole or part if sufficient grounds are shewn, and I beg also to support his proposal that the improvement of the Basral and

upper portion of the Koppa series of tanks be taken up at once, and to save delay that each project be put in hand as soon as the plan and estimate are completed by the Assistant Engineer, without waiting for the completion of projects for the whole series.

10. If in addition to this the roads mentioned in para 7 of the Deputy Commissioner's letter, No. 1390 of the 17th ultimo, be undertaken, employment will be provided for many of the nearly destitute inhabitants of the Mandya Taluk, and no doubt a good deal of the money will find its way back to the Treasury at once in payment of the revenue.

11. I propose visiting the Gundlupet and Chamrajnagar Taluks immediately when a report on their condition will be submitted, and the Deputy Commissioner who is now engaged on the jamabandi of the Mysore Taluk has been requested to report the results as soon as he can.

12. Mr. Shanmugavelu Pille, who has returned from Periyapatna and Yedatore, states that, with the exception of the villages on the Coorg frontier, the crops were very deficient throughout these taluks, and failed entirely in several places, but he did not consider it expedient to make any remissions and appears to be of opinion that the extension of khists and remission of process fees and interest will be sufficient concessions.

13. Several of the Amildars have recommended that payment of assessment on lands newly taken up during the current year should not be demanded on the ground that the applicants have been unable to raise any crops, and Major Hill in his letter No. 1394 of 20th ultimo, copy of which is enclosed, suggests that half the assessment should be remitted, but this course has not been adopted hitherto, and there are great objections to sanctioning a general remission of this nature which might be necessary in some individual cases only.

14. The Deputy Commissioner of Hassan has made no special report of the state of the taluks of his District where the rain was deficient, but has been directed to submit a brief statement without delay.

From the Deputy Commissioner, Mysore District, To the Commissioner, Ashtagram Division, No. 974, dated Camp Mandya, 14th September 1875.

Having lately made a tour through the greater portion of the Mandya Taluk, I have the honor to submit a report for your information on the condition of the crops.

The jola crop which is now being reaped has proved an entire failure. In a few fields only has it come into ear. In most fields the stalks have withered away.

The dod-ragi and harka crops are very backward and in many places are withering from want of rain.

The tanks are all dry and cultivating operations cannot be proceeded with. The rice crop under the large Mandya tank will wither if rain does not fall within 8 days.

It will thus be seen that agricultural prospects are very discouraging, and that the ryots have reason to be disheartened.

The health of the Taluk is on the whole good.—Cholera has however broken out in the marginally noted villages, and 13 fatal cases have been reported. The Amildar deserves much credit for the steps which he has taken to clean the villages; all dung heaps have been removed, the side drains in village streets have been opened, and the villagers have been induced to whitewash their houses which present a neat and clean appearance.

1. Hemmige ... ... 2. Sunagalli ... ... 3. Belur ... ... 4. Bestarkoppal ... ... 5. Marsamahalli ... ... 6. Kandali ... ... 7. Nilakantamahalli ... ... 8. Toppalhalli ... ... 9. Belfur ... ...

From the Deputy Commissioner, Mysore District, To the Commissioner, Ashtagram Division, No. 1390, dated Camp Maddur, 17th December 1875.

In my letter No. 974 of the 14th September last, I had the honor to report the complete failure of the jola crop in the Mandya, Chamrajnagar and Mysore Taluks, and in portions of other taluks in this District. I have now to report that the ragi crop, which is being cut throughout the country, is of the most wretched description, and is likely even in the most favored localities to yield not one half of the usual return.

2. I regret having to report further that the crop has entirely failed in the whole of the Dud, Basral, Mattikere and Kotati hoblis of the Mandya Taluk, with the exception of the lands attached to the villages of Sivahalli and Indval. The crop in large portions of the kasba and Yeliyur hoblis in the Mandya Taluk and of the Arsinkere hobli of the Malvalli Taluk has suffered to an equal extent. Only two good showers of rain fell during the season when the seed was put down, since then there has not been a single shower of rain to bring the crop on. The consequence is that the ears of grain have not filled. What there is of it will be light and not sufficient even for seed next year.

3. The gram crop, which the ryots sowed after the failure of the jola crop, is likely to prove equally unproductive. A shower of rain in the early part of the month might have saved it, but at present it is scarcely an inch above the ground in many places and in others the pods are empty. The ballar crop has suffered much from the recent cloudy weather, which encourage the ravages of insects.

4. I have visited the afflicted tract, and find that the representations made concerning the heavy loss sustained by the ryots are not exaggerated. There is no actual destitution as yet. The people are much discouraged, and begged to be excused from payment of the assessment. Some of the poorer classes complained of the ryots hoarding grain. Numbers of them have left their villages to work as coolies in the Wynnad.

5. The remission of this year's assessment cannot be granted without full consideration. The sum would amount to Rs. 31,223—2—7 for the Mandya Taluk; and the measure would form a bad precedent in that it would lead to the establishment of a claim for all similar cases in future. The chief difficulty would be found in drawing the line between a simply poor and a wholly valueless crop. Besides the ryots had a comparatively good crop last year, and although they must feel the pressure of the taxation greatly, most of them should be in a position to arrange for the payment of the tax from previous profits. I am not aware how it has been decided with respect to the realization of the revenue this year in Chitaldroog, but I may mention that the tract of country in which the crops have failed resembles it much in being dry and very stony.

6. As the season advances it may be found however necessary to provide food and work for the poorer classes in the proximity of their villages. The improvement of the Basral and upper portion of the Koppa series of tanks might be taken up at once, and to save delay each project may be put in hand as soon as the plan and estimate are completed by the Assistant Engineer, without waiting for the completion of projects for the whole series. Of course at such a time contributions cannot be expected from the ryots.

7. Three roads made by the ryots pass through the afflicted part of the taluk. One eastwards towards Kotati and two westwards to Basral and Melkota. The two latter admit of being extended into the Hassan District where the crops have also suffered; the former to Nagamangala and the latter to Jakenhalli in the Attikuppa Taluk, where the road to Melkota branches off. Employment for the poorer classes can be furnished in the improvement of these roads which will prove useful feeders to the railway when made, and as they pass over a stony country the charges for their up-keep will be trifling. If approved of the works may be put in hand at once, and the preparation of the requisite plans and estimates be left to the District Surveyor who will be deputed to supervise the work if requisite under Mr. Chabrel's orders.

8. Government must be prepared to undergo some expense, as the accounts received of the state of the crops in the Gundlupet and Mysore Taluks are likewise very discouraging. In the Malvalli Taluk heavy remissions in the assessment on wet lands will have to be made as nearly all the tanks failed to receive any supply of water this year.

The following is a statement shewing the population of the villages in the afflicted tract and the assessment payable by them on their dry lands, together with the Amildar's report:—

Names.	Population.	Dry assessment payable.		
Dud hobli (excluding Sivahalli)	10,072	7,258	8	0
Basral hobli	12,292	7,623	13	4
Mattikere do	5,096	4,059	12	4
Kotati do (excluding Indval)	9,785	6,146	0	5
Yeliyur do (excluding 5 villages)	3,963	2,279	13	2
Mandya do (excluding 8 villages)	5,294	3,955	3	0
Total.....	46,502	31,223	2	7

Proceedings of the Chief Commissioner of Mysore, Department of Revenue, Agriculture and Commerce, 20th January 1876.

From the Deputy Commissioner, Mysore District, To the Commissioner, Ashtagram Division, No. 1394, dated Camp Maddur, 20th December 1875.

Adverting to my report No. 1390 of the 17th instant on the condition of the crops in this District, I have the honor to report that recommendations have been received from Amildars that payment of assessment on lands newly taken up during the current year should not be demanded, on the ground that the applicants have been unable to raise any crop.

2. As such an exemption has not hitherto been made during the jamabandi settlement, I request to be favored with your orders on the subject. I would recommend that half the assessment should be remitted, as from the land being made over to the applicants they will have a good start next year. It may be mentioned however that if the indulgence be given in one taluk, it will be claimed in all, as the rains have been short this year in every part of the District, save in a few hoblis in the western portion of the Heggaddevankote Taluk.

From the Deputy Commissioner, Mysore District, To the Commissioner, Ashtagram Division, No. 1434, dated Mysore, 4th January 1876.

In continuation of my report No. 1390 of the 17th ultimo on the condition of the crops in the Mandya Taluk, I have the honor to submit a petition from the Amildar pointing out the difficulty which has been experienced in collecting the instalment of revenue for December, and suggesting that the fee for the service of notices may not be demanded.

2. In the Chief Commissioner's Notification No. 328 of the 22nd December, it is stated that he is prepared to extend the period for payment of instalments of revenue, if found requisite, in other Districts, but the advantage derivable from such a step is not apparent in this District, as the latter crops have failed, and the ryots are not likely to be in a better position to pay the tax further on than they are now.

3. It will be seen therefore that if any relief is proposed, it must take the form of a direct remission of payment of kandayam in part or whole. This concession is made in the case of irrigated fields and the same may be extended to all the ryots who have had no crop this year on their dry fields, many of the ryots might meet the whole of the demand by parting with their cows and calves, but it is desirable for their future welfare to save their stock if possible.

4. The exemption of payment of notice fees which is suggested by the Amildar may be allowed, as these fees are high, and their payment will press severely on the already impoverished ryots.

Statement shewing the state of crops in the Taluks of the Mysore District for the year 1875—76.

Taluks.	Paddy.	Ragi.	Gram.	Jowar.	Bajlar.	Green-gram.	Black do.	Bengal do.	Harka.	Navane.	Sâme.	Coriander.	Fenugreek.	Sesamum.	Tadagani.	Tobacco.	Jola.	Kambu.	Wheat.	Sesamum, 2nd sort.	Sugar-cane.	Cotton.	Chillies.	Mulberry.	Castor-oil seeds.
Mysore	12/16	4 5/16	6 9/16	4	3 10/16	5 7/16	3 3/16	3 12/16	2 5/16	2	3 2/16	2 12/16	2 4/16	3 13/16	3 3/16	2 9/16	3 4/16	4 1/16	1 4/16	2 15/16	4 15/16	2	4 15/16	4 1/16	4 12/16
Chamrajnagar ..	8/16	3/16	6/16	12/16	8/16	8/16	8/16	12/16	4/16	4/16	6/16	8/16	8/16	8/16	8/16	7/16	3/16	4/16	4/16	6/16	8/16	8/16	12/16	4/16	6/16
Ashtagram ..	1	2/16	4/16	1/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	6/16	1/16	1/16	4/16	8/16	2/16	1/16	8/16	3/16	4/16	4/16	1/16	3/16	8/16	12/16	4/16	8/16
Periyapatana ..	12/16	8/16	8/16	8/16	8/16	8/16	8/16	8/16	6/16	4/16	8/16	8/16	8/16	6/16	8/16	8/16	6/16	4/16	8/16	8/16	4/16	8/16	12/16	8/16	8/16
Yedatore ..	12/16	4/16	4/16	4/16	4/16	3/16	4/16	4/16	4/16	4/16	4/16	4/16	4/16	4/16	4/16	8/16	4/16	8/16	8/16	8/16	4/16	8/16	12/16	8/16	4/16
Heggaddevankote ..	12/16	2/16	12/16	8/16	8/16	8/16	8/16	8/16	4/16	8/16	8/16	8/16	8/16	8/16	8/16	8/16	4/16	8/16	4/16	4/16	1	8/16	4/16	8/16	4/16
Gundlupet ..	6/16	2/16	4/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	1	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16
Nanjangód ..	6/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	1	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16
Talkad	12/16	4/16	4/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	1	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16
Mandya	12/16	8/16	3/16	3/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	4/16	3/16	3/16	4/16	3/16	2/16	3/16	2/16	2/16	4/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	1 5/16	2/16	3/16	2/16	2/16
Malvalli	1/16	8/16	12/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	3/16	3/16	4/16	2/16	2/16	3/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	2/16	1 8/16	2/16	8/16	2/16	2/16
Total	6 11/16	4 5/16	6 9/16	4	3 10/16	5 7/16	3 3/16	3 12/16	2 5/16	2	3 2/16	2 12/16	2 4/16	3 13/16	3 3/16	2 9/16	3 4/16	4 1/16	1 4/16	2 15/16	4 15/16	2	4 15/16	4 1/16	4 12/16
Average	9/16	6/16	6/16	5/16	5/16	8/16	5/16	6/16	6/16	4/16	5/16	7/16	7/16	5/16	6/16	6/16	5/16	4/16	5/16	5/16	9/16	6/16	7/16	4/16	7/16

Proceedings of the Chief Commissioner of Mysore, Department of Revenue, Agriculture and Commerce, 20th January 1875.

No. 7867—Rev. 76, dated Bangalore, 20th January 1876.

Ordee thereon.—In the above letter the Commissioner brings to notice the distress prevailing, in consequence of the failure of the usual rains, in the Mandya, Chamrajnagar and Mysore Taluks, and in parts of the other Taluks of the Mysore District, and suggests the adoption of certain measures for the relief of the people.

2. The Officiating Chief Commissioner authorizes the remission, wholly or in part, as the Deputy Commissioner may determine, of the hulbanni or grazing-rents in the affected taluks, and also the extension to the several taluks above named of the indulgence conceded, as to khists, in this Office Notification No. 328 of the 22nd ultimo.

3. With regard to the Commissioner's suggestion in para 9 for the remission of interest and process fees, the Officiating Chief Commissioner observes that while the Deputy Commissioner is empowered to grant such, in particular cases, the reduction of the khists should obviate any necessity for making the measure of general application.

4. The proposal for at once taking up the projects for the repairs of the Basral and upper portion of the Koppa series of tanks will be considered and disposed of in the Public Works Department. If the projects are advanced, it would be desirable that the earth-work should be put in hand, in anticipation of formal sanction to the estimates.

5. The Officiating Chief Commissioner authorizes the road works referred to in para 10 of the Commissioner's letter being taken in hand, but the necessary estimates and specifications should be prepared and submitted with the least practicable delay through the Secretary, Department Public Works. It is presumed that the requisite funds for these projects are available from the Local Fund Budget.

6. The question of remitting the assessment on lands newly taken up during the current year and not cultivated may receive further consideration from the Commissioner, if circumstances should render a deviation from the usual practice in such cases necessary.

7. The Officiating Chief Commissioner remarks that no mention has been made of the condition of the water-supply for domestic purposes and of fodder for cattle, and desires that a full report may be furnished as to existing prices throughout the District as compared with the normal rates and a careful enquiry made into the existing resources of food supply.

T. CLARKE,
Offg. Secretary.

Proceedings of the Chief Commissioner of Mysore, Department of Revenue, Agriculture and Commerce, 21st January 1876.

From the Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Revenue, Agriculture and Commerce,
To the Offg. Chief Commissioner of Mysore and Coorg, No. 2—102, (Municipalities,)
dated Calcutta, the 22nd December 1875.

"No town duty or toll shall be levied on goods, vehicles, &c., *bona fide* the property of the Government, brought within the municipal limits for the exclusive and direct use of Government. When the Government takes delivery of goods from a dealer or contractor within municipal limits, the above exemption shall not apply."

Under clause 7 (quoted in the margin) of the rules prescribed by the Resolution of the Government of India, in the Home Department, dated the 6th November 1868, No. 4446, (Public,) Government goods are exempt from octroi or town duties if delivery is taken without municipal limits, while they are liable to the duty if delivery is taken within those limits.

2. The Governor General in Council is, however, of opinion that the distinction drawn by the rule is not founded on sound principle, it being immaterial whether delivery of the goods is taken by Government within or without municipal limits, as the State should in neither case be liable to pay municipal duties thereon, which would in effect be to tax the general public for the benefit of the local body. At the same time it is necessary that proper precautions should be taken against frauds which might occur if goods were exempted from octroi on the mere statement of the contractor importing them.

8. Under these circumstances I am directed to forward a copy of rules made in substitution of Rule VII of those laid down in Home Department Resolution No. 4446, dated the 6th November 1868, regarding the levy of octroi on Government stores passing a municipal barrier and to request that the requisite steps may be taken for giving effect to them in the municipalities in Coorg.

Rules regarding the levy of octroi on Government stores passing a municipal barrier.

I. Goods the property in which is vested in Government at the time they pass the barrier shall pass free if accompanied by an invoice with the endorsement of the proper Government officer certifying that they are the property of Government.

II. Goods the property in which is not vested in Government at the time they pass the barrier, but which, being imported with a view to the fulfilment of a Government contract or otherwise intended for the use of Government, will in the ordinary course of things become the property of Government after importation, shall on passing the barrier be declared as intended for the use of Government, *e. g.*, in fulfilment of a certain (specified) contract. The duty on them shall then be paid, and subsequently if they actually do become the property of Government, the duty shall be refunded on a certificate to that effect signed by the Departmental Officer concerned.

No. 7890—Rev. 17, dated Bangalore, 21st January 1876.

Ordered that copies of the foregoing letter and of its enclosure be communicated to the Officers named below for information and guidance.

J. S. F. MACKENZIE,
For Offg. Secretary.

Proceedings of the Chief Commissioner of Mysore, Department of Revenue, Agriculture and Commerce, 22nd January 1876.

From the Commissioner, Nundydroog Division, To the Offg. Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore, General Department, No. 167, dated 10th January 1876.

With reference to the concluding portion of this Office letter No. 156, R., of the 21st December ast, I have the honor to forward copy of letter No. 771 of the 5th instant from the Deputy Commissioner of the Túmkúr District reporting on the condition of the Sira Taluk.

2. I beg to state that I think the advances on account of wells may with advantage be made at once to the extent of one half under each heading, and that after the Chief Commissioner has passed through the Taluk, the question of Hulbanni remission can, without further delay, be decided.

From the Deputy Commissioner, Túmkúr District, To the Commissioner, Nundydroog Division, No. 771, dated Túmkúr, 5th January 1876.

Adverting to your docket No. 573 of 21st ultimo, I have the honor to report as follows on the condition of the Sira Taluk, having recently gone over a considerable portion of it, with the view of personally ascertaining its present state and prospects.

2. I regret to report that, with very few exceptions, the tanks are dry ; the dry crops generally are very scanty, possibly averaging a quarter crop throughout, though in some localities they have completely failed The nát ragi and crops irrigated by wells are fair average ones, while the nut gardens have produced well, but the grazing throughout the taluk has failed completely, with the exception of an Amrut Mahal Kaval, the State Forest and the beds of one or two tanks.

3. It appears to me that there will undoubtedly be distress in many villages where the people are poor and wholly dependent on dry crops and grazing, while the great rise in prices in the last few months, which may be expected to steadily increase, will eventually be felt severely by the poor throughout the taluk, and were it not that Kapilé wells for 1 to 4 motes are sunk by most who can afford to do so at a cost from 3 to 10 hundred rupees, it would undoubtedly have been a famine year all over the taluk.

4. These wells are on an average, say 100 feet square, the soil generally not a very hard rock, requires no building up or revetting of sides, the general depth may average 24 feet once excavated and water obtained. I cannot learn of any instance in which a well has been subsequently known to fail, hence the springs at a certain depth below the surface must be abundant, and wherever these exist, the owners are independent of seasons, as all the dry crops—ragi, ballar, castor oil &c,—yield more abundantly under irrigation.

5. There are very many wealthy merchant cultivators, and these are purchasing and importing fodder for their cattle, others not so well-to-do are sending off their cattle to other taluks and Districts to graze, while among the poorer and more numerous classes unable to do either, the loss of cattle for want of both water and grazing will certainly be very heavy.

6. This is a short but general account of the taluk, and I would now beg to submit for consideration the measures that I consider necessary to meet the distress arising from the unfavorable season.

1st.—A total remission of the Hulbanni or grazing revenue, amounting this year to Rupees 7,115—13—0.

2nd.—Authority to grant to villages where the residents are too poor to help themselves, Rupees 400 to sink a Kapilé well, Rs. 20,000 might advantageously be granted at once by Government on this account as famine work.

3rd.—Advances as Takavi to the same amount to others who merely want assistance to enable them to excavate wells in their holdings so as to secure themselves against future famine years, recoverable by equal instalments extending over 4 years from next year.

4th.—Repairs to certain tanks, but these are only small works and will give no employment for a long time, or to large numbers; the estimates are under preparation.

6. I would request that in the event of these works being sanctioned as famine works an extra District Surveyor be detailed from another District for duty here under Mr. Porteous, Sub-Division Officer.